

Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Program Summaries

United States Department of Agriculture

2008 Value Added Producer Grant program

USDA published the Notice of Solicitation of Applications (NOSA) in the 1/29/08 Federal Register inviting VAPG applications. Over \$18 million is available for this nationally competitive program. The maximum individual grant amounts are the same as last fiscal year: \$100,000 for a planning grant or \$300,000 for a working capital grant.

A copy of the NOSA is attached to this email as an Adobe pdf file. If you are unable to open the attachment, you can download a copy of the NOSA from the following website: <http://frwebgate3.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/waisgate.cgi?WAISdocID=6165464777+4+0+0&WALSaction=retrieve>

The deadline for submitting VAPG applications is March 31, 2008. To assist you in meeting this timeframe, fillable application templates are available on the VAPG website. To access the application templates, please go to the VAPG webpage at: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/vadg.htm>. Please note that this website has not yet been updated with the 2008 application templates or NOSA links. We expect all of this information to be updated shortly. Once updated, click on the Applicants link on the right and then on the Application Requirements link toward the bottom of the screen. This web site also includes an eligibility self assessment tool, which is a good place to start. Links to the program regulations listed in the NOSA are contained on the website, as well.

A more reader friendly version of the program regulations can be downloaded at the following links:

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/regs/regs/doc/4284a.doc>

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/regs/regs/doc/4284j.doc>

Please note that the information in the NOSA supersedes and supplements the program regulations. So, you should follow the requirements in the NOSA when developing your application.

CSREES

Resident Instruction Grants Program for Insular Areas Grant

Document Type:

Grants Notice

Funding Opportunity Number:

USDA-CSREES-RIGP-001304

Opportunity Category:

Discretionary

Posted Date:

Feb 01, 2008

Creation Date:	Feb 01, 2008
Original Closing Date for Applications:	Apr 11, 2008
Current Closing Date for Applications:	Apr 11, 2008
Archive Date:	May 12, 2008
Funding Instrument Type:	Grant
Category of Funding Activity:	Education Agriculture
Category Explanation:	
Expected Number of Awards:	
Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$470,000
Award Ceiling:	\$470,000
Award Floor:	\$35,000
CFDA Number:	10.308 -- Resident Instruction Grants for Insular Area Activities
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	No

Eligible Applicants

An eligible institution is an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 (a) of the Higher Education Act of 1995 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))) located in an Insular Area and has a demonstrable capacity to carry out teaching and extension programs in the food and agricultural sciences. Individual land-grant colleges and universities, and other institutions that have secured land-grant status through Federal legislation, and located in Insular Areas are automatically eligible for awards under this program, either as direct applicants or as parties to a consortium agreement.

Description

The purpose of this program is to promote and strengthen the ability of Insular Area Institutions to carry out teaching and education programs within a broadly defined arena of food and agricultural sciences-related disciplines. By strengthening institutional educational capacities in instruction and curriculum, and enhancing the quality of teaching and learning, CSREES intends that this program will help Insular Area Institutions meet their unique needs. This program also will assist Insular Area Institutions to make more efficient use of existing educational funds by providing resources for partnerships between faculties at Insular Area and mainland institutions.

Link to Full Announcement

[Fiscal Year 2008 Resident Instruction Grants Program for Institutions of Higher Education in Insular Areas](#)

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&flag2006=true&opId=16724>

United States Department of Agriculture
Utilities Programs
USDA Rural Development Rural Public Television Digital Transition Grant Program

Document Type:	Grants Notice
Funding Opportunity Number:	RDUP-08-01-PTV
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary
Posted Date:	Feb 08, 2008
Creation Date:	Feb 08, 2008
Original Closing Date for Applications:	Mar 28, 2008
Current Closing Date for Applications:	Mar 28, 2008
Archive Date:	Apr 27, 2008
Funding Instrument Type:	Grant
Category of Funding Activity:	Other (see text field entitled "Explanation of Other Category of Funding Activity" for clarification)
Category Explanation:	Rural Public Television Digital Transition
Expected Number of Awards:	10
Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$4,965,000
Award Ceiling:	\$750,000
Award Floor:	\$0
CFDA Number:	10.861 -- Public Television Station Digital Transition Grant Program
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	No

Eligible Applicants

Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification)

Additional Information on Eligibility:

Public television stations which serve rural areas of the U.S. are eligible. A public television station is a noncommercial educational television broadcast station that is qualified for Community Service Grants by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting under section 396(k) of the Communications Act of 1934. Individuals are not eligible for financial assistance directly.

Description

The Rural Public Television Digital Transition Grant Program provides funding to assist Public Television Stations serving substantial rural populations in implementing the Federal Communications Commission's mandated transition from analog to digital broadcasting. Grant funds may be used to acquire and install facilities and software necessary for the transition as well as equipment to

facilitate local origination and management of programming. Grant funds may also be used for associated engineering and environmental studies.

Link to Full Announcement

[USDA Rural Development Public Television Digital Transition Grant Program
http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&flag2006=true&oppld=16834](http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&flag2006=true&oppld=16834)

United States Department of Agriculture
Business and Cooperative Programs
Inviting Applications for Rural Business Opportunity Grants

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service, an Agency within the Rural Development mission area, announces the availability of grants of up to \$50,000 per application from the Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) program for fiscal year (FY) 2008, to be competitively awarded. For multi-state projects, grant funds of up to \$150,000 will be available on a competitive basis. These limits do not apply to specific funding as discussed below.

DATES: The deadline for the receipt of applications in the Rural Development State Office is March 31, 2008. The RBOG appropriation for FY 2008 provides specific funding for Native American, Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and Rural Economic Area Partnerships, and these applications must also be received in the Rural Development State Office by March 31, 2008. The Agency reserves the right to extend this application deadline. Any applications received at a Rural Development State Office after these dates for this type of assistance will not be considered for FY 2008 funding.

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rd/nofas/2008/RBOG-2008.txt>

United States Department of Agriculture
Business and Cooperative Programs
Small Minority Producer Grant
Modification 2

Document Type:	Modification to Previous Grants Notice
Funding Opportunity Number:	RDBCP-08-03-SMPG
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary
Posted Date:	Feb 15, 2008
Creation Date:	Feb 17, 2008
Original Closing Date for Applications:	Apr 08, 2008 You may submit completed applications for grants on paper or electronically by April 8, 2008. Late applications are not eligible for FY2008 grant funding.

Current Closing Date for Applications: Apr 08, 2008 You may submit completed applications for grants on paper or electronically by April 8,2008. Late applications are not eligible for FY2008 grant funding.

Archive Date:

Funding Instrument Type: Grant

Category of Funding Activity: Agriculture

Category Explanation:

Expected Number of Awards: 8

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$1,463,000

Award Ceiling: \$175,000

Award Floor: \$0

CFDA Number: 10.771 -- Rural Cooperative Development Grants

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement: No

Eligible Applicants

Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification)

Additional Information on Eligibility:

Eligible applicants are minority cooperatives or minority associations of cooperatives. Individuals are not eligible for this program.

Description

Provides technical assistance to small, minority agricultural producers through eligible minority cooperatives and minority associations of cooperatives.

Link to Full Announcement

[Link to Small Minority Producer Grant Program](http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=40712)
<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=40712>

Housing and Community Facilities Programs Rural Housing Preservation Grants Grant

Document Type: Grants Notice

Funding Opportunity Number: USDA-RD-HCFP-HPG-2008

Opportunity Category: Discretionary

Posted Date: Feb 25, 2008

Creation Date: Feb 25, 2008

Original Closing Date for Applications: Apr 21, 2008 The closing deadline for receipt of all applications in response to this Notice is 5 p.m., local time for each Rural Development State Office on April 21, 2008. The application closing deadline is firm as to date and hour. RHS will not consider any application that is received after the closing deadline. Applicants intending to mail applications must provide sufficient time to permit delivery on or before the closing deadline date and time. Acceptance by the United States Postal Service or private mailer does not constitute delivery. Facsimile (FAX) and postage due applications will not be accepted.

Current Closing Date for Applications: Apr 21, 2008 The closing deadline for receipt of all applications in response to this Notice is 5 p.m., local time for each Rural Development State Office on April 21, 2008. The application closing deadline is firm as to date and hour. RHS will not consider any application that is received after the closing deadline. Applicants intending to mail applications must provide sufficient time to permit delivery on or before the closing deadline date and time. Acceptance by the United States Postal Service or private mailer does not constitute delivery. Facsimile (FAX) and postage due applications will not be accepted.

Archive Date: May 21, 2008
Funding Instrument Type: Grant
Category of Funding Activity: Community Development Housing

Category Explanation:
Expected Number of Awards: 150
Estimated Total Program Funding: \$9,593,704
Award Ceiling: \$100,000
Award Floor: \$0
CFDA Number: 10.433 -- Rural Housing Preservation Grants

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement: No

Eligible Applicants

County governments
City or township governments
Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities
Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)
Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification)
Faith-Based and Community Organizations

Description

The Rural Housing Service (RHS) announces that it is soliciting applications under its Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) program. The HPG program is a grant program which provides qualified public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, which may include but not be limited to Faith-Based and Community Organizations, and other eligible entities grant funds to assist very low- and low-income homeowners in repairing and rehabilitating their homes in rural areas. In addition, the HPG program assists rental property owners and cooperative housing complexes in repairing and rehabilitating their units if they agree to make such units available to low- and very low-income persons. This action is taken to comply with Agency regulations found in 7 CFR part 1944, subpart N, which require the Agency to announce the opening and closing dates for receipt of preapplications for HPG funds from eligible applicants. The intended effect of this Notice is to provide eligible organizations notice of these dates

Link to Full Announcement

[Section 533 Housing Preservation Grant Program
http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=40800](http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=40800)

Food and Nutrition Service
FY 2008 Food Stamp Participation Program Grant

Document Type:	Grants Notice
Funding Opportunity Number:	USDA-FNS-FSPA-08
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary
Posted Date:	Feb 20, 2008
Creation Date:	Feb 20, 2008
Original Closing Date for Applications:	May 15, 2008
Current Closing Date for Applications:	May 15, 2008

Archive Date:	Jun 14, 2008
Funding Instrument Type:	Grant
Category of Funding Activity:	Food and Nutrition
Category Explanation:	
Expected Number of Awards:	
Estimated Total Program Funding:	
Award Ceiling:	
Award Floor:	
CFDA Number:	10.580 -- Food Stamp Program Outreach Grants
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	No

Eligible Applicants

The entities eligible to receive grants under this competition are: • The 53 State agencies that administer the FSP; • State or local governments; • Agencies providing health or welfare services*; • Public health or educational entities*; and • Private non-profit entities* such as community-based or faith-based organizations, food banks, or other emergency feeding organizations.

Description

Eligible applicants are invited to compete for a 2008 Food Stamp (FS) Participation Program. Subject to the availability of FY 2008 funding, up to \$5 million dollars in grant funding is available. The purpose of the FS Participation Program is to support efforts by State agencies and their community-based and faith based partners to develop and implement: simple food stamp applications and eligibility determination systems; or measures to improve access to fs benefits by eligible applicants. Please view the announcement for additional details.

Link to Full Announcement

[Link to the announcement](#)

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=40761>

Business and Cooperative Programs
Value Added Producer Grant
Modification 1

Document Type:	Modification to Previous Grants Notice
Funding Opportunity Number:	RDBCP-08-01-VAPG
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary
Posted Date:	Feb 15, 2008

Creation Date:	Feb 15, 2008
Original Closing Date for Applications:	Mar 31, 2008 Paper applications must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight no later than March 31, 2008. Electronic applications must be received by March 31, 2008. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2008 grant funding.
Current Closing Date for Applications:	Mar 31, 2008 Paper applications must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight no later than March 31, 2008. Electronic applications must be received by March 31, 2008. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2008 grant funding.
Archive Date:	
Funding Instrument Type:	Grant
Category of Funding Activity:	Agriculture
Category Explanation:	
Expected Number of Awards:	130
Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$18,400,000
Award Ceiling:	\$300,000
Award Floor:	\$0
CFDA Number:	10.352 -- Value-Added Producer Grants
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	Yes

Eligible Applicants

Individuals
Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification)

Additional Information on Eligibility:

Applicants must be an independent producer, agriculture producer group, farmer or rancher cooperative, or majority-controlled producer-based business venture as defined in 7 CFR 4284, subpart A.

Description

The primary objective of this grant program is to help eligible independent producers of agricultural commodities, agricultural producer groups, farmer and rancher cooperatives, and majority-controlled producer-based business ventures develop strategies to create marketing opportunities and to help develop business plans for viable marketing opportunities. Eligible agricultural producer

groups, farmer and rancher cooperatives, and majority controlled producer-based business ventures must limit their proposals to emerging markets. These grants will facilitate greater participation in emerging markets and new markets for value-added products. Grants will only be awarded if projects or ventures are determined to be economically viable and sustainable. No more than 10 percent of the program funds can go to applicants that are majority controlled producer-based business ventures.

Link to Full Announcement

[Link to Value Added Producer Grant Information](http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=40708)

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=40708>

Business and Cooperative Programs Rural Cooperative Development Grants

Document Type:	Grants Notice
Funding Opportunity Number:	RDBCP-08-02-RCDG
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary
Posted Date:	Feb 15, 2008
Creation Date:	Feb 15, 2008
Original Closing Date for Applications:	Apr 08, 2008 You may submit completed applications for grants on paper or electronically by April 8, 2008. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2008 grant funding.
Current Closing Date for Applications:	Apr 08, 2008 You may submit completed applications for grants on paper or electronically by April 8, 2008. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2008 grant funding.
Archive Date:	
Funding Instrument Type:	Grant
Category of Funding Activity:	Agriculture
Category Explanation:	
Expected Number of Awards:	22
Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$4,400,000
Award Ceiling:	\$200,000
Award Floor:	\$0
CFDA Number:	10.771 -- Rural Cooperative Development Grants
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	Yes

Eligible Applicants

Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education

Private institutions of higher education

Additional Information on Eligibility:

1994 Institutions

Description

Provides grant funds to establish or operate a Center to assist individuals or entities in the startup, expansion or operational improvement of cooperative business.

Link to Full Announcement

[Link to Rural Cooperative Development Grant Program](http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=40711)

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=40711>